(c) In view of the reply to parts (a) and (b) above, the question does not arise.

Rural agro industrial economic policy

3092. SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to formulate a rural agro industrial economic policy to lessen the dependence of villages on the towns; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by Government to process the raw-materials in villages in order to make it into finished goods so that the villages and towns become supplementary to each other?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) With a view to creating more employment opportunities in the rural non-farm sector, based on the use of local raw materials and skills, the Government has been promoting agro and rural industries through the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), schemes for development of the khadi and coir sectors, etc. The REGP is being implemented through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) and banks in the rural areas and small towns with population up to 20,000. Similarly, PMRY is being implemented through the District Industries Centres (DICs) of the State/Union Territories (UTs) and banks in rural areas as well as urban areas. The targets for creation of additional employment during 2005-06 are 5.5 lakh under the REGP and 3.75 lakh under PMRY. The target of additional employment generation in the coir sector during 2005-06 is 0.20 lakh.

The units set up under the REGP and PMRY as well as those in the khadi and coir sectors mostly use local raw materials. This leads to value addition in local raw materials and marketing of the products in villages and towns, thus helping in promoting supplementarity of rural and urban areas.

Modernisation of traditional industries

3093. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated programmes for regeneration and modernization of traditional industries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) In keeping with the declaration in the National Common Minimum Programme and the announcement in the July 2004 budget speech of Finance Minister, a draft scheme titled the "Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries" (SFURTI), covering traditional industries like coir, handloom, handicrafts, sericulture, leather, pottery, etc., has been prepared. The draft scheme, with projected commencement in 2005-06, is based on a "cluster approach" and has been circulated to the Central Ministries/Departments concerned for their comments, prior to final approval. A provision of Rs. 30 crore has been proposed in the budget estimates 2005-06 for this Scheme.

Loans disbursed under PMRY

3094. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of loans disbursed to the educated unemployed under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) since its launching during the Eighth Five Year Plan till 2003-04, year-wise showing number of persons that received loans, State-wise, amount granted/disbursed, units set up and employment generated;

(b) the details of the terms for disbursal of loan prescribed under the PMRY is 1993 and changes made, if any, therein from time to time;

(c) the details of number of closed down units and net outstanding loan amount held up therein, year-wise and State-wise; and

(d) the steps contemplated, if any, for facilitating revival of closed PMRY units?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) The State-wise and year-wise details of the number of educated unemployed youth given loans along with the amounts of loans disbursed and the employment generated under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) since the launching of the Yojana, *i.e.* from 1993-94 to 2003-04 are given in the Annexure 24 [*See* Appendix 204 Annexure No. 24]. According to the findings of the 2nd round of evaluation study of the PMRY, conducted by the Institute of Applied